



Knothole Baseball

All-Star Summer Classic

Dates: July 12, 13, 14, and 15, 2018

Main Location: Blue Ash Sports Center
11540 Grooms Road, Blue Ash, OH 45242

Divisions: 8u, 9u, 10u, 11u, 12u, 13u, 14u, 15u

Open to: Recreational, Knothole, Organizations' All-Star, Continental, or American lower than Silver SWOL/MWOL teams or alike

3 Game Guarantee

Entry Fee 8U to 12U: - \$250
Paid in Full after 6/30 - \$300

Entry Fee 13U and 15U: \$350
Paid in Full after 6/30 - \$400

No Gate or parking fees – Game Balls Provided – 2 Umpires 13u and older
Individual Trophies for division Champions and runners-up

Questions can be directed to the Tournament Director at
baoman2004@cs.com OR Murdith Adkins – 513-470-6162

www.knotholebaseball.com



The Knothole July Tournament is open to Knothole Teams, Recreational Teams, Baseball Organizations' All-Star Teams, Little League Teams, American below Sliver or Continental SWOL/MWOL Teams and alike. This Tournament is not open to SWOL American Gold, National League and Mid-West Ohio Division 1 Teams and/or players or alike. Player Birthday cutoff is as of May 1st. Games will be played at the Blue Ash Sports Complex or nearby fields.

A non-refundable \$100 Deposit is required with the completed Registration Form to hold your spot in the Tournament. Registration Fees for the Age Divisions are due as follows:

8U to 12U --- \$250, Paid in Full after June 30th = \$300. 13U to 15U teams add \$100 to the above fee structure. Registration is first come, first in. There will be no gate/parking fee. The Knothole Tournament will provide game balls and 2 umpires for 13u and older age groups. There will be individual Champion and Runner-Up awards presented on-field immediately after the Championship Game for each age bracket.

A maximum of 8 teams in each age group will be accepted for the tournament. Each age bracket in the Tournament will have a Pool Play format to determine the seeding for a single elimination Championship Round. In the Championship Round, the #1 seeded team will play the #4 seeded team (of the Championship qualifying teams) even if they come from the same pool. Consolation Games will be scheduled if necessary. If there are less or more than 8 teams available in a division the Tournament Director will adjust the format of play at his discretion to best suit the circumstances. Age brackets may be combined at the discretion of Tournament Director if there are insufficient teams in an age division (not likely).

Our plan is for teams to play Thursday July 12th & Friday July 13th starting at 6pm with the remaining Pool games played on Saturday July 14th. The top finishers will advance to Sunday's Championship Round. If we are unable to play scheduled games due to inclement weather, the Tournament Director will determine and communicate the best possible solution based on the timing of the inclement weather and the circumstances. The tournament will end on Sunday July 16th. Other Tournament details can be found below or at www.knotholebaseball.com.

Knothole Baseball All Star Summer Classic

July 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 2018

Registration Form:

Team Name: _____

Team Manager: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Mobile Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____@_____

League / Association / Affiliation : _____

(ex – SWOL American, PYO All-Star, Mason Knothole-East, LSO Little League, Midwest Division 2)

League Division: _____

(ex – 13U, D2, 11U – 12U)

Check Division you wish to play in: 8U () 9U () 10U () 11U ()
12U () 13U () 14U () 15U ()

Maximum roster is 15 players. We will need a Certificate of Liability Insurance for your team naming Knothole Baseball, LLC as an additional named insured. Also name the City of Blue Ash as an additional named insured. Both the team roster and the Insurance Certificate are due prior to your first game. Game balls are provided for the Tournament.

A \$100 Deposit is required with this completed form.

8U & 12U - Paid in Full by 5/30 - \$250 --- Paid in Full after 6/30 - \$300

13U to 15U - Paid in Full by 5/30 - \$350 --- Paid in Full after 6/30 - \$400

No Gate or Parking Fees

Checks or Money orders should be made payable to: “Knothole Baseball Inc.”

Mail to:

Knothole Baseball, LLC c/o Murdith Adkins
360 Turtle Creek Dr
Loveland OH 45140

Questions should be directed to: Murdith Adkins -- baoman2004@cs.com

2018 Knothole Baseball All Star Summer Classic Rules, Policies and Guidelines

We will play Major League Baseball Rules, then Knothole Rules, then the following.

1. Player Ages

Player age based on May 1st cutoff

- 15U - Any player who does not turn 16 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.
- 14U - Any player who does not turn 15 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.
- 13U - Any player who does not turn 14 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.
- 12U - Any player who does not turn 13 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.
- 11U - Any player who does not turn 12 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.
- 10U - Any player who does not turn 11 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.
- 9U - Any player who does not turn 10 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.
- 8U - Any player who does not turn 9 years old before May 1st 2018 is eligible to play.

2. Pitching restrictions

- a. Pitchers are limited in innings pitched according to the following:
 - a. 8U through 10U
 - i. No more than 12 innings for the entire tournament
 - ii. No more than 8 innings in any two consecutive days
 - b. 12U through 15U
 - i. No more than 10 innings for the entire tournament
 - ii. No more than 6 innings in any two consecutive days
- b. Innings pitched will be tracked. These must be turned in to the umpire with the final score of the game.
- c. Pitching in any part of an Inning counts as an inning pitched

3. Distances:

- 14U & 15 U – 60'6" Pitching, 90' Bases
- 13U – 54' Pitching, 80' Bases
- 12U – 51' Pitching, 75' Bases
- 10U & 11U – 48' Pitching, 70' Bases
- 8U & 9U – 45" Pitching, 60' Bases

4. Length of Games:

Complete games:

- a. 8U to 10U = 5 Innings
- b. 11U to 13U = 6 innings
- c. 14U to 15U = 7 innings

Pool Play games may end in a tie. Cannot start a new inning after 1 hour and 45 minutes

In the Championship Round Games, no time limit for the Championship Game. All other games – No new inning may start after 1:45 minutes. In case of a tie, the game will be extended using the California rules. ie – The inning starts with last batter out on second base, one out and a 1-1 count on all batters.

The Home Team will not bat in the bottom half of an inning, if winning, after the time limit has been reached.

4. Mercy Rule:

- a. 8U to 10U - 10 runs after 3 innings
- b. 11U to 13U - 10 runs after 4 innings
- c. 14U to 15U - 8 runs after 5 innings

The Mercy Rule applies in all games.

2018 Knothole Baseball All Star Summer Classic Rules, Policies and Guidelines

5. Batting Order Options, and Re-entry

See Knothole rules 18 & 19. Also Managers must present a lineup card to the umpire. It must state the players in the starting lineup and what batting order option the coach is using (9 man, 10 man (AH), or Continuous). Each team may choose the Batting Order option they wish to use.

- a. AH (Additional Hitter)
 - a. Only 1 extra hitter is allowed per team
 - b. The Additional Hitter may be anyone on the team's official league roster
 - c. The Additional Hitter is simply an additional person in the batting order who may be placed anywhere in the 10 man batting order
 - d. The AH is an interchangeable part with anyone in the lineup. (I.e: If, for example, the AH is moved to 2B in the second inning, the 2B then becomes the AH with no change in the batting order)
- b. Continuous (Roster Bat)
 - a. All players present at the beginning of the game must be placed in the batting order
 - b. Players who arrive after the game has started are placed at the bottom of the batting order
 - c. There is free substitution for the defensive positions
 - d. A player who is injured or ill or who has to leave the park may leave the game, but may NOT return. That spot in the batting order is skipped and does NOT count as an out. **Injuries or illnesses may not be feigned.** Doing so may result in the forfeiture of the game
 - e. A player who leaves the game while on base or at bat is replaced by the most recent batter not currently occupying a base

6. Home Team

Home team will be determined by a coin flip in pool play.

In the single elimination playoff round the higher seed is home team. Each team will provide a scorekeeper with all pitching changes being recorded by home plate umpire.

7. Metal Cleats

Metal cleats are prohibited except for 14U and 15u

8. Playoff Seeding:

Seeding for playoff rounds will be decided as follows:

- * Win-Loss Record
- * Head to Head
- * Least runs allowed (meaning how many total runs in all Pool games you allowed, the lower the number the better your standing).
- * Most runs Scored (meaning how many total runs in all Pool games scored, the higher the number the better your standing)
- * Flip of the coin

10. On Field Warm-ups

On-Field warm-ups will not be allowed except for use of the Outfield grass areas. This is only permissible prior to the official start time of a scheduled game and may not interfere with any other game or team. There are absolutely no Walk-On practice or warm up allowed on any un-occupied field. *Infield warm up is not permitted on any field in fair or foul territory.*

11. Grace Period

At start time, a 15-minute grace period will be used in order to avoid forfeit

12. Rain and other Uncontrolled Events

In case of rain or other uncontrolled event occurring - 4 innings constitutes a complete game. A game suspended past 4 innings, in the middle of an inning will revert back to the score at the end of the prior inning. Reminder, complete pool play games may end in a tie. Incomplete games will only be completed if necessary to determine Championship Round seeding.

2018 Knothole Baseball All Star Summer Classic

Rules, Policies and Guidelines

13. Rainout./Refund Policy

Every effort will be made to finish tournament but in case of rain, darkness or other acts of God, the Tournament Director reserves the right to shorten games or modify schedules in order to finish the event.

Refund policy is as follows:

- a. No games started - \$200 refund 8u to 12u - \$300 Refund to 13u to 15u
- b. 1 game started -- \$100 refund 8u to 12u - \$200 Refund to 13u to 15u
- c. 2 games started -- \$50 refund 8u to 12u - \$100 Refund to 13u to 15u

14. Record Keeping

Teams are required to maintain a record of all games in a team scorebook. It is the team's score keeper's responsibility to monitor the other team breaking any pitching, illegal lineup, etc rule and bring it to the umpire's attention. All scorebooks must be available upon request by the director at any time during the course of the tournament. Home team is official score keeper, we recommend you check your numbers with the umpire after every ½ inning. The home team scorebook must note pitchers used by both teams, the number of innings pitched, and pitch count. The umpire will submit to the tournament director, the final score, innings pitched, and pitch count by pitcher after each game.

15. Bats

See Knothole rule 15. All bats will be required to meet Knothole Standards and Rules for the appropriate age level. Penalty for using an illegal bat is that the batter is out and an immediate dead ball and the bat is removed from the game and bench area. This is an appeal play and appeal must be made prior to the first pitch to the next batter. A second attempt to use a non-approved bat will result in ejection of the Team Manager in addition to the penalty above.

16. Plowing or Hurdling

See Knothole Rule 29. Bull-rushing or plowing over a defensive player is unsportsmanlike conduct and, at the umpire's discretion may result in the runner being called out and ejected from the current game.

17. Ejections

Any manager, coach, or player ejected from a game will be suspended from the next tournament game. The suspended person may not be present in the ball park during the games for which they are suspended (includes 30 minutes before and 30 minutes after the game). A suspension can be appealed to the Tournament Director.

18. Team Rosters

A Team Roster should contain no more than 15 players. Team Rosters should be submitted via email to: baoman2004@cs.com or U.S. Mail to arrive by 7/1/2018 to the address in item #29. Failure to submit the Team Roster can result in a game forfeit.

19. Player Eligibility

SWOL "National", "Americian Gold" and MWOL "Division 1" level players and alike from this year's Spring Season, may not play or be rostered on a team for this tournament.

20. Birth Certificates

Teams must have birth certificates available for review at any time during the tournament. Any player without a birth certificate on file with the team manager will be ineligible and the team will forfeit any game in which the player appeared. Any dispute questioning player eligibility should be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director before the end of the game in question. There will be no refunds issued due to ineligible players and a resultant forfeit.

21. Liability Insurance

Each team must carry Liability Insurance. Proof of insurance must be received before team's first game listing the **City of Blue Ash and Knothole Baseball, LLC** as an "Additional Named Insured". Failure to provide the Liability insurance can result in forfeit of tournament play and all fees paid. The refund policy in item #14 does not apply to a team with a missing Liability Insurance & Concussion Certification documents. These documents should be E-Mailed to: baoman2004@cs.com or US mailed to the above Knothole address. Please note that we recommend you carry your own first aid kit because we will not have any medical personal at the tournament.

22. Lineup Card

The line-up you turn in before the game should list all players present at the start of the game. If a player is not present when the game starts and arrives late the player can be added to the end of the line-up if roster batting.

2018 Knothole Baseball All Star Summer Classic

Rules, Policies and Guidelines

23. Code of Conduct

The Knothole Coaches and Parents Code of Conduct can be found on our WebSite (www.knotholebaseball.com) and we expect each Team Manager to be responsible in supporting the items contained in these documents with their respective team parents. An ejection will result in the Player, Parent or Coach missing the next game in the Tournament.

24. PETS, Smoking and Alcoholic Beverages

Pets, Smoking, and Alcoholic Beverages are **NOT allowed** at the Ballpark at any time.

25. Tournament Director

The Tournament Director (or designee) will be on site and available via mobile telephone.

26. Protests

There is no "Protest process" regarding game play for the sake of this tournament. If you are in question of a rule, please contact the Tournament Director for an official ruling. Do not wait until your game is completed to try to resolve issues. Any game that continues from the point of dispute is considered to be official and the result cannot be appealed or reversed.

27. Award Presentations

Award Presentations will take place on the field immediately following the Championship Game. Please remain at the field following your Championship game, even if your team is the runner-up.

28. Concussion Certification

Coaches must submit evidence of their "Concussion Certification" with their Proof of Insurance – see item #29.

29. Registration forms,

Liability Insurance Information, Concussion Certification, and any other documents should be emailed to baoman2004@cs.com or sent by regular mail to:

Knothole Baseball, LLC c/o Murdith Adkins
360 Turtle Creek Dr
Loveland OH 45140

2018 Knothole Baseball All Star Summer Classic

Rules, Policies and Guidelines

Referenced Knothole Rules

- 15. BATS-** Approved baseball bats are any unaltered commercially manufactured bats available for retail purchase with the following exceptions:
- (1) Classes D Junior through Class B Senior:
 - (a) The maximum bat diameter is 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
 - (b) Softball bats are not allowed to be used.
 - (c) Composite material and flex handle bats are prohibited unless they are "bpf", BBCOR or BESR rated Ratings may be printed on the bat or received from the manufacturer in some written or electronic (email) manner for each bat model.
 - (d) Bats certified under USA baseball may also be used.
 - (d) Any legal bat in Class A Junior (14U) and up may be used in Class D Junior through Class B Senior.
 - (2) For Class A Junior (14U) and up:(a) Bats must have BBCOR or BESR certification Ratings may be printed on the bat or received from the manufacturer in some written or electronic (email) manner for each bat model. (b) The maximum difference between bat length and bat weight is minus 3 (-3).
 - (3) Wood bats and single piece aluminum bats are allowed to be used in all classes without any ratings; all other restrictions apply. PENALTY: Player is out and the ball is dead immediately and the bat is immediately removed from the game and the bench area. Additionally the manager of the offending team is automatically ejected from the game.
- 18. KNOTHOLE MODIFICATION TO RE-ENTRY:** A team must start a game with nine players but may finish with eight players. The vacant batting spot will be declared out. (a) Any of the starting and substitute players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, providing such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. Penalty for violation of this section shall be ejection of the manager and player involved. (b) If Player is injured or ejected and cannot be replaced because all substitutes have played, then the opposing manager will choose any player from the bench to replace the injured or ejected player.
- 19. BATTING ORDER OPTIONS:** (a) A tenth batter may be added to the batting order at the start of the game. Any nine (9) of the ten (10) batters may play on defense. If a team using the AH drops from ten (10) to nine (9) players available the spot in the lineup is left open and is not an out. (b) A team also has the option of using a continuous batting order. The Definition of the continuous batting order is as follows:
- (1) Team must declare at the start of the game that they are using the Continuous Batting Order;
 - (2) All players present at the beginning of the game must be placed in the batting order;
 - (3) Players who arrive late after the game has started are placed at the bottom of the batting order;
 - (4) There is free substitutions for the defensive positions;
 - (5) A player who is injured or ill or who has to leave the park may leave the game, but may NOT return. That spot in the batting order is skipped and does not count as an out. Injuries and illnesses may not be feigned, doing so may result in the forfeiture of the game; and
 - (6) A player who leaves the game while on base or at bat is re- placed by the most recent batter not currently occupying a base. Note: Teams using the AH or continuous batting order must refer to Rule 18 if their batting order falls below nine (9) players.
- 29. HURDLING OR PLOWING OVER THE CATCHER OR OTHER FIELDERS – (is a judgment call and could result in unsportsmanlike conduct)**
- Runners may not intentionally run into or hurdle defensive players. Runners who do this are out and ejected from the game. They must attempt to avoid contact with the defensive players. This is a judgment call by the umpire. However, also understand the following:
- (1) Defensive players without the ball may NOT block the baseline, even if they are in the act of receiving a thrown ball. They must provide the runner with some access to the base/baseline. Once a defensive player has possession of the ball, they may block the baseline.
 - (2) The runner may NOT intentionally run into the defensive player, even if the defensive player is blocking the baseline without the ball.
 - (3) If the runner has to move from his normal path in order to avoid a defensive player without the ball, this is Obstruction on the defensive player.
 - (4) Just because there is contact does not necessarily mean a violation has occurred.